GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6000
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2003
PACKAGE FOR WATER SUPPLY PROGRAMMES
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Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to give any special package for water supply programmes during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the expenditure incurred by the Government on water supply programmes in the country during the last three years; and

(d) the number of villages benefited in Rajasthan under the said programme?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) & (b) Drinking water supply being a State subject, schemes for providing drinking water facilities to rural habitations are implemented by the State Governments with their own resources. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the States by providing financial assistance under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). Powers have been delegated to the States to plan, sanction and implement individual rural drinking water supply schemes.

The Swajaldhara Programme has been launched by the Prime Minister on 25th December, 2002 for Drinking Water Supply. Swajaldhara scheme is a special effort to provide drinking water to all the rural areas by March, 2004. The special feature of Swajaldhara scheme is that this will be implemented, maintained and owned by the community. In these projects, the participation of community is a major factor which is to ensure planning, implementation, operation and maintenance for all times to come. 10% contribution is made by the community and 90% funds are provided by the Government of India. So far 4912 projects with an outlay of Rs. 293.79 Crore have been sanctioned by the Ministry of Rural Development.

Also, the Prime Minister on his Independence Day Address- 2002 made the following announcements with regard to rural drinking water supply sector:

- One lakh hand pumps will be installed in water scarce areas;
- One lakh primary schools in rural areas will be provided with drinking water facilities.
- One lakh traditional sources of drinking water will be revived.

Government of India has agreed to provide an amount of Rs. 700 Crore for the above purposes.

(c) The amount released to the State Governments under ARWSP during the years 2000-01, 2001-02 & 2002-03 are Rs. 1896.55 Crore, Rs. 1943.05 Crore and Rs. 2100.70 Crore respectively.

(d) 88986 Rural habitations out of 93945 habitations in Rajasthan are fully covered under the ARWSP. The remaining 4960 habitations are not covered.